Comments in Response to Localism Notice of Proposed Rulemaking MB Docket No. 04-233

MAR 192008

I submit the following comments in response to the Localism Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (the "NPRM"), released Jan. 24, 2008, in MB Docket No. 04-233.

Any new FCC rules, policies or procedures must not violate First Amendment rights. A number of proposals discussed in the NPRM, if enacted, would do so – and must not be adopted.

- (1) The FCC must not force radio stations, especially religious broadcasters, to take advice from people who do not share their values. The NPRM's proposed advisory board proposals would impose such unconstitutional mandates. Religious broadcasters who resist advice from those who don't share their values could face increased harassment, complaints and even loss of license for choosing to follow their own consciences, rather than allowing incompatible viewpoints to shape their programming. The First Amendment prohibits government, including the FCC, from dictating what viewpoints a broadcaster, particularly a religious broadcaster, must present.
- (2) The FCC <u>must not</u> turn every radio station into a public forum where anyone and everyone has rights to air time. Proposed public access requirements would do so even if a religious broadcaster conscientiously objects to the message. The First Amendment forbids imposition of message delivery mandates on any religion.
- (3) The FCC must not force revelation of specific editorial decision-making information. The choice of programming, especially religious programming, is not properly dictated by any government agency and proposals to force reporting on such things as who produced what programs would intrude on constitutionally-protected editorial choices.
- (4) The FCC must not establish a two-tiered renewal system in which certain licensees would be automatically barred from routine renewal application processing. The proposed mandatory special renewal review of certain classes of applicants by the Commissioners themselves would amount to coercion of religious broadcasters. Those who stay true to their consciences and present only the messages they correspond to their beliefs could face long, expensive and potentially ruinous renewal proceedings.
- (5) Many Christian broadcasters operate on tight budgets, as do many smaller market secular stations. Keeping the electricity flowing is often a challenge. Yet, the Commission proposes to further squeeze niche and smaller market broadcasters, by substantially raising costs in two ways: (a) by requiring staff presence whenever a station is on the air and, (b) by further restricting main studio location choices. Raising costs with these proposals would force service cutbacks and curtailed service is contrary to the public interest.

We urge the ECC not to adopt rules, procedures or policies discussed above.

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Mund Signature	3/13/08 Date
VRI MI SICACIFI	1900 S. ROBERTSON BLVD CA Address
	(3/0) 287 - 119/ Phone
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MAR 192008

FCC Mail Room

Comments in Response to Localism Notice of Proposed Rulemaking MB Docket No. 04-233

- 1. The FCC must not follow through on imposing non-Christian people, beliefs and ideals on the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. I grew up listening to the Bible Broadcasting Network (All Christian radio program) as a little girl. Now that I am in my early twenties, all the messages of God's love and grace that have been preached on the Bible Broadcasting Network for many years, have been made even clearer to me, all because of the wonderful outreach of the Bible Broadcasting Network to this world. FCC, you cannot do this because the state will not be helping the church, it will only be hurting it by bringing in outside beliefs that do not acknowledge the message of Jesus Christ, Although the people running the radio stations are human, and prone to making mistakes, the Word of God that they send out is infallible.
- 2. I believe that it is safe for me to speak for the other millions of people that hang on to every word of teaching and music from the Bible Broadcasting Network, that there is no way that we could live, literally, without the Word of God being brought to us through radio and internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We would be lost. I am not just speaking for BBN, but for all the Christian radio programming that sends out the message of Jesus' love for us. There are people out here who need to hear the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Even if everyone does not believe in Jesus, our Constitution does grant us freedom of religion.
- 3. What has happened to the issue of "Separation of Church and State?" Even if the Founding Fathers did not truly understand what they were doing, they had enough of a reverence for God to found this country upon Christian principles. I have no idea of the costs of keeping any radio station going at all, but I know that there is a lot of it involved. If anything, FCC, could you give toward the kingdom of God instead of trying to take away from it? I pray that God will touch your hearts and minds so that you will not follow through with your original plans.

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Organization (if any)	No. of Copies rec'd

The Secretary **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Attn: Chief, Media Bureau

Subject: Comments Re: MB Docket No. 04-233

Received & Inspected

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